

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims is provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

1.-6. (canceled).

7. (previously presented) A patient parameter cable comprising:
a signal acquisition cable;
an adapter that connects the signal acquisition cable to a patient monitoring station;
and
a memory device disposed in the adapter, wherein cable identification data is stored on the memory device.

8. (original) The patient parameter cable of claim 7, wherein the memory device is a one-wire memory chip comprising a one-wire interface.

9. (original) The patient parameter cable of claim 7, further comprising one or more sensors.

10. (original) The patient parameter cable of claim 9, further comprising a sensor adapter that connects the one or more sensors to the signal acquisition cable.

11. (currently amended) A patient parameter cable comprising:
a cable for signal acquisition;
a station adapter for connecting the cable to a patient monitoring station;
a sensor adapter for connecting the cable to one or more sensors; and
a memory device disposed in the station adapter and configured to store cable identification data.

12.-23. (canceled).

24. (currently amended) A patient parameter cable comprising:
a cable for signal acquisition;
a memory support disposed on the cable;
a memory device disposed in the memory support and configured to store cable identification data;
a station adapter for connecting the cable to a patient monitoring system; and
a sensor adapter for connecting one or more sensors to the cable.

25. (previously presented) The parameter cable of claim 24, further comprising one or more memory devices stored in at least one of the station adapter or sensor adapter.

26. (currently amended) A patient parameter cable comprising:
means for carrying signals from one or more sensors to a patient monitoring station;
means for connecting the parameter cable to a patient monitoring station;
means for connecting the parameter cable to one or more sensors; and
means for storing data, the means for storing data storing at least parameter-cable identification information in the parameter cable.

27. (original) A method for monitoring a patient comprising:
connecting a parameter cable having one or more sensors to a first patient monitoring station;
affixing the one or more sensors to a patient;
inputting demographics of the patient into the first patient monitoring station;
calibrating the first patient monitoring station;
monitoring the patient with the first patient monitoring station;
populating a memory device disposed in the parameter cable with demographics, calibration settings, and acquired monitored data.

28. (original) The method of claim 27, further comprising:
disconnecting the parameter cable from the first patient monitoring station;
connecting the cable to a second patient monitoring station;
retrieving the demographics, calibration settings, and acquired monitored data from
the memory device into the second patient monitoring station; and
monitoring the patient with the second patient monitoring station.

29. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the one or more sensors are
detached and reattached to the patient.

30. (original) The method of claim 28, wherein the first and second patient
monitoring stations incorporate modalities of at least one of a
electrocardiography/respiration (ECG/Resp), pulse oximetry (SpO₂), cardiac output (CO),
temperature (Temp.), invasive blood pressure (IBP), mainstream end tidal carbon dioxide
(ETCO₂), non-invasive blood pressure (NBP), venous oxygen saturation (SvO₂),
impedance cardiography (ICG), electroencephalography (EEG), Bispectral Index (BIS),
and neuromuscular transmission (NMT), entropy monitoring, metabolics monitoring,
anesthetic agent monitoring, and spirometry/respiratory mechanics monitoring.

31. (previously presented) A computer program, provided on one or more
tangible media, for monitoring a patient, comprising a routine for populating a memory
device disposed in a parameter cable with equipment settings from a first monitoring
station, wherein the equipment settings comprise system settings, alarm settings, or
calibration settings, or any combination thereof.

32. (previously presented) The computer program of claim 31 further
comprising a routine for retrieving the equipment settings from the memory device disposed
in the parameter cable to a second monitoring station.

33. (previously presented) The computer program of claim 31, further comprising a routine for populating the device with patient demographics, wherein the patient demographics comprise name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, disease prevalence, or a health risk factor, or any combination thereof.

34. (previously presented) A method of manufacturing a parameter cable, comprising:

disposing a memory device in or along the parameter cable; and
storing identification information of the parameter cable in the memory device.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising protecting the stored identification information in the memory device.

36. (previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein disposing the memory device comprises disposing the memory device in an adapter of the parameter cable.

37. (previously presented) A method comprising:
coupling a parameter cable to a patient monitoring system; and
storing equipment settings of the patient monitoring system in a memory device disposed in or along the parameter cable.

38. (previously presented) A method for monitoring a patient comprising:
populating a memory device disposed in or along a parameter cable with demographic information of a patient; and
exposing a sensor of the parameter cable to the patient.

39. (previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein populating the memory device comprises:

 inputting the demographic information into a patient monitoring station; and
 transmitting the demographic information from the patient monitoring station to
the memory device.